State of California — The Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

PRIMARY RECORD

Primary #_____
HRI #_____
Trinomial_____
NRHP Status Code_____
Other Listings_____
Review Code_____ Reviewer_____ Date_____

 Resource name(s) or number(assigned by recorder) N-212

P1. Other Identifier: Model Development Building

***P2. Location:** ☒Not for Publication ☐Unrestricted ***a. County** Santa Clara
***b. USGS 7.5' Quad** San Francisco North, Calif. **Date:** 1995
***c. Address** 785 Mark Ave. **City** Moffett Field **Zip** 94035
***e. Other Locational Data:**

***P3a. Description:** (Describe resource and its major elements. Include design, materials, condition, alterations, size, setting, and boundaries.)

Building N-212 is 15,400 sq. ft. rectangular building, measuring approximately 127' by 102', located at the northwest corner of Mark Avenue and Warner Road. It is a two-story industrial style building with a concrete foundation, exposed concrete walls, and a flat roof. The building's massing is simple with minimal ornamentation. This building has simple, flat, horizontal concrete bands that run across each façade. The building has one over three steel awning windows that are sandwiched between the horizontal concrete bands. The windows are grouped in sets of either three or four and evenly spaced. They are separated by concrete piers with grooves that align with the window mullions. Some of the windows have been replaced with louvers or covered with mechanical ductwork. The north façade has a pair of sliding hangar doors that are two stories in height. The west façade, facing Mark Avenue, has a pedestrian entry with a concrete canopy. The doors at this entry are aluminum storefront and are not original to the building.

This building appears to be in good condition.

***P3b. Resource Attributes:** (list attributes and codes) HP6 – Office Building; HP8: Industrial Building; HP39– Other: Research and Development Facility

***P4. Resources Present:** ☒Building ☐Structure ☐Object ☐Site ☐District ☐Element of District ☐Other

P5a. Photo

P5b. Photo: (view and date)
View of North Facade, (8/12/05)

***P6. Date Constructed/Age and Sources:** 1950

***P7. Owner and Address:**
United States of America as represented by National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)

***P8. Recorded by:**
Page & Turnbull, Inc.
724 Pine Street
San Francisco, CA 94108

***P9. Date Recorded:** 08/11/05

***P10. Survey Type:**
Reconnaissance

***P11. Report Citation:** Lori Neff, *Department of Parks and Recreation – Historic Resources Inventory "Bldg. N212, Model Development Building,"* (1995).

***Attachments:** ☐None ☐Location Map ☐Sketch Map ☐Continuation Sheet ☒Building, Structure, and Object Record
☐Archaeological Record ☐District Record ☐Linear Feature Record ☐Milling Station Record ☐Rock Art Record
☐Artifact Record ☐Photograph Record ☐ Other (list)

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Primary #_____
HRI#_____

BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD

Page 2 of 2

*NRHP Status Code 5D3

*Resource Name or # N-212

B1. Historic name: Structural Fabrication Shop
B2. Common name: Model Development Building
B3. Original Use: Office and shop B4. Present use: Aircraft model construction shop
***B5. Architectural Style:** Moderne with 20th-Century Industrial influences
***B6. Construction History:** (Construction date, alterations, and date of alterations)
1950 – Date of Construction

***B7. Moved?** ☒No ☐Yes ☐Unknown **Date:**_____ **Original Location:**_____
***B8. Related Features:**
Significant architectural features include concrete exterior, sliding hangar doors, and open workshop interior.

B9a. Architect: National Advisory Committee for Aeromautics (NACA) Engineers b. Builder:
***B10. Significance: Theme** Post-War Science and Space Exploration **Area** NASA Ames Research Center
Period of Significance 1940-1958 **Property Type** Research Support Facility **Applicable Criteria** 1 & 3
(Discuss importance in terms of historical or architectural context as defined by theme, period, and geographic scope. Also address integrity)
Originally used as the Structural Fabrication Shop, Building N-212 currently houses the Advanced Composites Group. The Advanced Composites Group is a technical support group for all research disciplines at Ames. Its capabilities include composite fabrication, plastic fabrication, and other non-metallic fabrication processes. The Advanced Composites Group contributes to the design and manufacturing of a wide variety of test equipment and models. This facility contains spray booths for finish applications, autoclaves for composite fabrication, and many machine tools. It was one of several research and support buildings built between 1940 and 1958. Founded in 1939, the Ames Research Center was the second aeronautic research facility built for the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics (NACA). This research center was vital in the development of the field of aeronautical research and science. Along with new research facilities, such as wind tunnels and testing facilities, several support buildings were constructed for the staff, including libraries, offices, manufacturing facilities, and laboratories. These types of facilties were crucial in creating accurate models for the various types of testing that occurred at the center. At this time, these research and support buildings were rendered in an architectural vocabulary, which allowed for a variety of uses and a cohesive campus setting. These buildings were most often, one and two stories in height with concrete structural systems, concrete exteriors (with scored concrete detailing), and steel or wood-sash awning or hopper windows. They expressed Moderne architectural details with their scored exteriors, tripartite concrete panels (located between windows and doors), concrete entry canopies, and rectilinear configurations. Additionally, these buildings exhibited influences of 20th-Century Industrial architecture with their smooth, concrete exteriors and steel-sash awning and hopper windows. Aeronautical test models and various support hardware were developed in N-212 for on-going NASA programs over the years.This building possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

B11. Additional Resource Attributes: (List attributes and codes) (HP8) -- Industrial Building; (HP39) -- Research and Development Facility; (HP6) -- Office Building

***B12. References:**

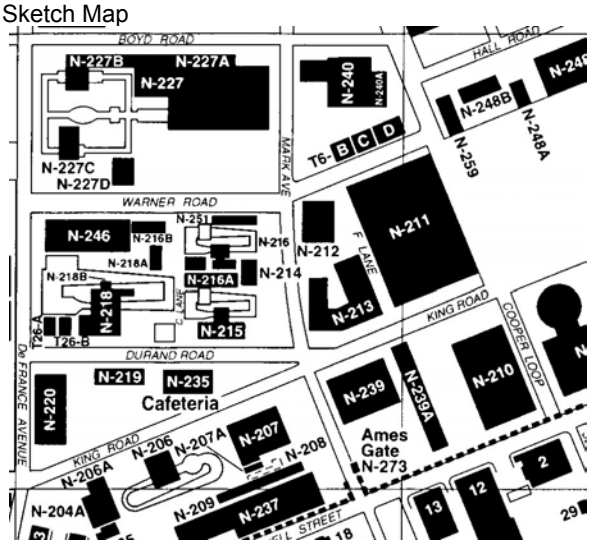
- Lori Neff, *Department of Parks and Recreation – Historic Resources Inventory "Bldg. N212, Model Development Building,"* (1995).
- Edwin Hartman, *Adventures in Research: A History of Ames Research Center, 1940 – 1965* (NASA SP-4302, 1970).
- Elizabeth A. Muenger, *Searching the Horizon: A History of Ames Research Center, 1940 – 1976* (NASA SP-4304, 1985).
- Glenn Burgos, *Atmosphere of Freedom: Sixty Years at the NASA Ames Research Center* (NASA SP-4314, 2000).

B13. Remarks:
In 1995, Section 110 survey documentation of the NASA Ames Research Center was submitted to the California State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO).

***B14. Evaluator:** Rich Sucre, Page & Turnbull, Inc.
724 Pine Street, San Francisco, CA 94108

(This space reserved for official comments.)

Sketch Map



***Date of Evaluation:** 10/18/2005